

Application No. 10/796,735
Responding to Office Action dated January 4, 2011
Response dated March 31, 2011

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A Media processor for a voice conferencing system, the media processor comprising:

a network interface configured to receive from endpoints incoming voice conference traffic representing a first portion of a voice conference; and

a processor configured to:

transmit the first portion through the network interface to a multicast distribution address of a distribution device operable to multicast the first portion to at least a second media processor assigned to process a different portion of the voice conference;

receive the different portion after multicast of the second portion by the distribution device to the network interface; and

forward the different portion to the endpoints.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The media processor of claim 1, where the incoming voice conference traffic comprises voice channels, and further comprising a n-loudest channel filter that determines the selected portion as up to 'n' loudest of the voice channels.

4. (Previously presented) The media processor of claim 1, where the network interface listens on an assigned network address to receive the different portion from the second media processor.

5. (Previously presented) The media processor of claim 4, where the processor determines a net voice conference traffic results of no more than 'n' loudest voice channels from the first portion

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of the incoming voice conference traffic and the different portion from the second media processor.

6. (Previously presented) The media processor of claim 1, where the processor breaks the first portion into packets prior to transmission through the network interface.

7. (Original) The media processor of claim 6, where the packets are User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packets.

8. (Previously presented) The media processor of claim 4, further comprising a multicast buffer for storing at least a portion of the different portion.

9. (Previously presented) A voice conferencing system comprising:

a group of media processors assigned to concurrently support a voice conference, each media processor in the group of media processors assigned to different voice channels in the voice conference; and

distribution circuitry coupled to the group of media processors, the distribution circuitry operable to communicate selected voice conference data received from a first media processor in the group to remaining media processors in the group.

10. (Previously presented) The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the distribution circuitry comprises a multicast switch operable to communicate the selected voice conference

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data received from the first media processor in the group to remaining media processors in the group.

11. (Previously presented) The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the distribution circuitry communicates the selected voice conference data to a network distribution address.

12. (Original) The voice conferencing system of claim 11, where the network distribution address is a User Datagram Protocol (UDP) multicast address.

13. (Previously presented) The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the first media processor comprises a first network interface that receives incoming voice conference traffic, and a traffic filter that determines the selected voice conference data from the incoming voice conference traffic.

14. (Previously presented) The voice conferencing system of claim 13, where the traffic filter is an n-loudest voice channel filter for the different voice channels.

15. (Original) The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the first media processor is operable to receive a selected transmission of voice conference traffic originating from at least one other media processor in the group.

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16. (Previously presented) The voice conferencing system of claim 15, where the first media processor determines a net voice conference traffic result of no more than 'n' loudest voice channels from the selected voice conference data and the selected transmission.

17. (Previously presented) A method for exchanging voice conference data, the method comprising:

receiving from endpoints incoming voice conference traffic representing a first portion of a voice conference at a first media processor;

transmitting the first portion to a distribution device operable to multicast the first portion to at least a second media processor assigned to process a different portion of the voice conference than the first portion; and

receiving the different portion at the first processor after multicast of the different portion by the distribution device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, where transmitting comprises transmitting to a UDP multicast address.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, where the incoming voice conference traffic comprises voice channels, and further comprising selecting fewer than all the voice channels in the incoming voice conference traffic as the first portion.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, where transmitting comprises multicasting.

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21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising determining a net voice conference traffic result from the first portion of the incoming voice conference traffic and the different portion from the second media processor.

22. (Original) A method for conducting a voice conference comprising:
receiving first endpoint traffic at a first media processor;
transmitting from the first media processor a selected portion of the first endpoint traffic;
receiving second endpoint traffic at a second media processor;
distributing the selected portion to the second media processor; and
receiving the selected portion at the second media processor.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising determining, at the second media processor, a second endpoint net traffic result from the selected portion and the second endpoint traffic.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, where determining a second endpoint net traffic result comprises selecting fewer than all voice channels present in the selected portion and in the second endpoint traffic.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
transmitting from the second media processor a selected portion of the second endpoint traffic to distribution circuitry;

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distributing the selected portion of the second endpoint traffic to a media processor group including the first media processor;

receiving the selected portion of the second endpoint traffic at the first media processor;
and

determining at the first media processor a first endpoint net traffic result from the selected portions of the endpoint traffic.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22, where distributing comprises transmitting to a multicast address.

27. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory machine readable medium, the non-transitory machine readable medium having code stored therein, the code having instructions which, when executed, cause a computer apparatus to perform a method, the method comprising:

receiving instructions that receive, from endpoints, incoming voice conference traffic representing a first portion of a voice conference at a first media processor;

transmitting instructions that transmit the first portion to a distribution device operable to multicast the first portion to at least a second media processor assigned to process a different portion of the voice conference than the first portion; and

receiving instructions that receive the different portion at the first processor after the multicast of the different portion by the distribution device.

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28. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 27, where the transmitting instructions execute transmitting portion to a media processor group distribution address that is a multicast address.

29. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 27, further comprising filtering instructions that filter the incoming voice conference traffic to obtain the first portion.

30. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 27, further comprising receiving instructions that receive a distribution transmission of voice conference traffic from a second media processor.

31. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 30, further comprising determining instructions that determine a net voice conference traffic result from the first portion of the incoming voice conference traffic and the distribution transmission from the second media processor.